

Le Blackfoot Language  
By John Maclean

TRANSACTIONS OF THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE.

[Vol. V.]

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THE BLACKFOOT LANGUAGE.

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[Read 11th April, 1896.]

The Blackfoot Language is spoken by the Indians belonging to the Blackfoot Confederacy, consisting of the tribes known as Bloods, Piegans and Blackfeet. These tribes are resident in Montana, United States, and Alberta, Canada. They possess no written characters, and consequently have not any native literature. Their knowledge of important events is transmitted by means of oral tradition, and their records of deeds are expressed by picture-writing.

The language is a rich deep guttural, difficult at first to be pronounced or understood, owing to the rapid utterances of the Indians. Students of Indian languages are very apt to make mistakes in the early stages of their studies, from the fact that many of the Indians conversing with them use "broken speech." At once they conclude that the language is very easily acquired, but if they will continue their studies faithfully they will soon learn that they have a hard task before them, which can only be mastered by intelligent and enthusiastic labour. Some time will elapse before the sounds peculiar to the language become familiar to the ear, but gradually these will separate themselves and become easily distinguished.

~~striking~~ ~~peculiarity~~ ~~peculiarity~~ is the dropping of the first and last syllables. Familiarity with the language will enable the student to detect this whenever it is done. Take such an example as *nītukskām*, which means *one*. Sometimes it is expressed in full, but I have often-times heard it as follows: *nītuks*, *nītukska*, *tukskām* and *tukska*. The prevalence of the guttural induces this dropping of syllables. The first and last syllables are at times expressed in such a low tone that they become inaudible to our ears.

The Blackfoot, like many other Indian languages, possesses the property of agglutination, and hence assumes the verbal form of expression. Indian languages are languages of verbs, and the Blackfoot is no exception to the general rule. He who would master an Indian language must give his days and nights to the study of the verb.

Dialectic changes are rapidly taking place amongst the tribes, resulting from separation. Differences of pronunciation and different words



"coined" for things unknown to them when they lived together as the netsepoye, *i.e.*, the people that speak the same language, are the results of the advent of the white race and their superior civilization.

#### ORTHOGRAPHY.

A standard system of orthography is a necessity in reducing any language to writing. Students of Indian languages not being guided by a standard system, generally adopt a phonetic method of spelling, which varies with the mental training or acute perception of the individual. A "key" to the individual systems must then accompany every book written in the language for the use of others, and oftentimes this is very difficult of application in studying the language. Having used a system of my own for several years, I was ultimately induced to abandon it after an examination of the universal alphabet of the Bureau of Ethnology, Washington, United States. This was in my opinion preferable to the Standard Alphabet of Lepsius, and I therefore selected the letters with their combinations which were suitable for expressing the sounds of the Blackfoot Language. Instead of arranging this standard system in different sections, treating of vowels, consonants, diphthongs and double letters, the whole has been placed consecutively, thus becoming a "key" which can be easily memorized and is ready for reference.

#### THE ALPHABET.

- a as in far, father : as sīnaksīn = a book or letter.
- ā as in law, all : as napīkwān = a white man.
- ai as in aisle, and as ī in pine : as kūnaitūpī = all the people.
- au as *ou* in out and *ow* in how : as mānyauyekwān = a fish eater.
- e as in they, like *a* in fate : as asetūqta = a small stream.
- ě as in then, met : as nītonoetsī = I am hungry.
- h as in ha, he : as hau ! hau = a form of salutation.
- i as in pique, machine : as imīta = a dog.
- ī as in piek, pin : as kīpītakī = an old woman.
- k as in kick : as kaksakīn = an axe.
- m as in man, money : as manikūpī = a young man.
- n as in nun, now : as notas = my horse.
- o as in note : as oqké = water.
- p as in pipe : as ponokamīta = a horse.
- q as *ch* in loeh—*guttural* : as oqkotokī = a stone.
- s as in sauee : as sokasīm = an outer garment or coat.
- t as in touch : neetūqta = a river.
- u as in rule, full : puqsīput = come thou here.

- û as in but, hut : matûpî = a person.  
w as in wish : awanîo = he says.  
ks as *x* in wax, and *ks* in books : as akks = women.  
maksîndm = cross.  
y as in you : as moyîs = a lodge.  
tc as *c* in church, and *tc* in match : as tcانىstapî = what is it.  
matcapsîo = he is foolish.  
kw as *q* in quick, quart : as akewân = a girl.  
kainakwân = a Blood Indian.

The following sounds, as expressed by their respective letters in the English language, have no equivalent in Blackfoot, namely: b, d, f, g, j, l, v, z.

The sounds belonging to the alphabet *never change*, so that when once understood and memorized one great difficulty is overcome. There are no silent letters, every vowel and consonant having its own appropriate sound. When two or more vowels come together they must be pronounced separately, unless forming diphthongs in accordance with the alphabet. I have thought it best to dispense with the use of the hyphen in connecting syllables, as a little more care bestowed upon the grammatical construction of the language will enable anyone to distinguish the syllables, and thus be saved the trouble arising from the transition to connected reading.

### ACCENTUATION.

Many of the difficulties of pronunciation can only be grasped by a practical acquaintance with the language. The interpretations of some words are changed by the change of accent, and also by a more emphatic pronunciation of the word in full. The *acute* accent is used to point out the syllable or vowel upon which the stress is to be laid, as : nĩtsémanĩ = I am speaking the truth, oqké = water.

Excessive prolongation of a vowel changes the sense of the word. This strong emphasis or prolongation is designated by a x placed under the emphatic letter, as a, o.

Oına = yonder.

Ekskaqse = very good.

Ekskaqse = very, very good.

There is a half vowel sound which is denoted by a comma below the vowel, as : kĩa = come on, or, let us go.

## EUPHONY.

In the combination of letters and the formation of words, strict attention is paid to the agreeableness of sound. This is one of the peculiar characteristics of the language. In the formation of compound words, when two syllables come together, which in combination will produce a harsh sound, one of the syllables is elided, as: omûqkîmî = big, nîna = a chief. When combined, the *mî* of the simple adjective is rejected and it becomes omûqkînîna = a big chief. Niokskûm = three, otasîks = horses (his), niokskotasîks = three horses.

When two simple words in combination possess several harsh-sounding consonants, two or more of the syllables are elided, as: sîksînûm = black, oqkotokî = stone, sîkoqkotokî = black stone, *i.e.*, coal. When two or more vowels come together in word-forming, and the sound resulting from their union is not harmonious, a consonant is inserted to secure the euphony. This is particularly noticeable in the verb, with its article, pronoun or pronominal prefix, as: nîsto = I, awan = root of verb, î = verbal termination. When combined we have: nî-t-awan-î = I say, kî-t-awan-î = thou sayest, awan-îo = he says. The letter *t* is inserted to secure harmony of sound.

Sometimes a vowel is changed in combination, as: omûqkîmî = big, kaio = bear. From these we have: omûqkokaio = big bear. Here the last syllable of the adjective is elided, and the last vowel remaining, namely î, is changed to o. Sometimes a vowel is rejected in combination, as: ponoka = deer, imîta = dog. Combined, we have ponokamîta = deer-dog, *i.e.*, a horse.

All the parts of speech are found in the language except the article. The numeral adjective nîtukskûm = one, and the demonstrative pronouns amo = this, and oma = that, are used to supply the place of the articles as, nîtukskûm ponokamîta = one horse, or a horse, amakio = this woman, amakekwân = this girl, or the girl, omakekwan = that girl, or the girl. They do not strictly supply the place of the articles, but they are used for that purpose.

The Blackfoot, Cree and Ojibway languages belong to the Algonkin family of languages, and in order to show the relation existing between them, there is subjoined a list of words in these three languages. The Blackfoot, Blood and Piegan tribes speak dialects of the Blackfoot, but as the changes made are slight, except in the coining of new words, it would not be expedient to spend time in tracing these differences. The lists of the three related languages are as follows:—

ENGLISH.	BLACKFOOT.	CREE.	OJIBWAY.
Man. (A human being—a person.)	Matûpi.	Alyûnu.	Anishînahî.
Man. (As distinguished from a woman.)	Nînao.	Napeo.	Înîni & Anîni.
Woman.	Aklo.	Îskweo.	Îkwe & Akwe.
Girl.	Akekwan.	Îskwesîs.	Îkwêshîs.
Boy.	Saqkomapi.	Napes & Napesîs.	Kwîwîshîs.
My father.	Nîna.	Notawî.	Nos.
His father.	Onî & Unî.	Otawîna.	Osan.
My mother.	Nîkîstî.	Nîkawî.	Nîngû.
My son.	Noqko.	Nîkosîs.	Nîngwîs.
My daughter.	Nîtûna.	Nîtûnîs.	Nîndûnîs.
My child.	Nokos.	Nowasîs.	Nînkîjanîs.
My elder brother.	Neesa.	Nî-tes.	Nîsîni.
My younger brother.	Nîskûn.	Nîsim.	Nîshîmî.
My elder sister.	Nînîstî.	Nîmîs.	Nîmîsî.
My younger sister.	Nîsîsa.	Nîsim.	Nîshîmî.
My brother-in-law. (The brother of my wife.)	Nîstûmo.	Nîstau.	Nîta.
My brother-in-law. (The husband of my sister—male speaking.)	Nîstûmoqko.	Nîstîm.	Nîta.
My sister-in-law. (Wife of brother—male speaking.)	Nînîsa.		Nînîm.
My wife.	Nîtoqkeman.	Nîwa.	Nînwîdîgîmagan.
My husband.	Noma.	Nînabem.	Nînabîm.
My head.	Notokanî.	Nîstîkwan.	Nîshîgwan.
My foot.	Noqkûts.	Nîstî.	Nîsîd.
My tooth.	Noqpekî.	Nîpî.	Nîbîd.
My throat.	Noqkîston.	Nîkutakûn.	Nîngongagan.
My brain.	Nopî.	Nîyîtp.	Nîntadîb.
Mouth.	Maâyê.	Mîton.	Mîndon.
Tongue.	Matsîne.	Mîteyûnî.	Dînanîo.
Fire.	Îstci.	Îskuteo.	Îshkotî.
Water.	Oqké.	Nîpi.	Nîbî.
River.	Neetâqta.	Sipi.	Sîbî.
Wood.	Mîstcîs.	Mîstîk.	Mîtîg.

ENGLISH.	BLACKFOOT.	CREE.	OJIBWAY.
Blood.	Apân.	Mîko.	Mîskwî.
Lodge.	Moyîs.	Mîkîwap & Apakwasân.	Wîgîwam.
Knife.	Îstoan.	Mokuman.	Mokomian.
Sun.	Natos.	Pîsîn.	Gîsîs.
Earth, land.	Tsaqkom.	Ôskî.	Âkî.
Dog.	Inûta.	Ôân.	Anîmash & Onîm.
Winter.	Stoye.	Pîpon.	Bîbon.
Bow.	Netsînamau & Namau.	Ateapî.	Mîtgîwab.
Moccasin.	Matsîkîn.	Mûkîsîn.	Makîsîn.
Stone.	Oqkotokî.	Asîmî.	Asîn.
Snow.	Konîsko.	Kona.	Gon.
Ice.	Kokotoyî.	Mîskwamî.	Mîkwam.
One.	Nîtukskûm.	Peyûk.	Bîjîg.
Two.	Natokûm.	Niso.	Nij.
Three.	Niokskûm.	Nîsto.	Nîswî.
Four.	Nîsoyîm & Nîso.	Neo.	Nîwîm.
Five.	Nîsîto & Nîsîtcî.	Nîyanûm.	Nanan.
Six.	Nao.	Nîkotwasîk.	Nîngotwaswî.
Seven.	Îkîtcîka & Îkîtcîkûm.	Tepakûp & Nîsoasîk.	Nîjwasî.
Eight.	Nanîsoyîm & Nanîso.	Jananco.	Nîshwaswî.
Nine.	Piqseo.	Peyûkosteao.	Jangaswî.
Ten.	Kepî & Kepo.	Mîtat & Mîtatût.	Mîdaswî.
He eats.	Anyeo.	Mîtcîsûo.	Wîsîno.
He sits.	Îpeo.	Ôpio.	Namadabî.
He sleeps.	Aîokao.	Nîpau.	Nîba.
He is sick.	Aîoqtokosîo.	Akusîo.	Ôkosî.
He comes here.	Paiuqsapu.	Peitûteo & Astam.	Bîdjîja.
He goes away.	Aîsîstûpo.	Matcîo.	Madja.
He goes in.	Paiyemae.	Pîtuqueo.	Pîndîgî.
He goes out.	Sûkseo.	Wayawîo.	Sagam.
He loves him.	Ôkomimîo.	Sakîtheo.	Sagîa.
He loves it.	Ukomitcîmae.	Sakîlao.	Sagîton.
It rains.	Aisotao.	Kîmiwûn.	Gîmîwan.
It snows.	Potao.	Mîspun.	Sogîpo.

## THE NOUN.

In accordance with the agglutinative tendency of Indian languages, the Blackfoot language uses a verbalized form of speech and the noun occupies an inferior position. Nouns are seldom used separately. They are generally incorporated with the verb. It is needful, however, to understand the noun thoroughly, because of its relation to other parts of the language, and the changes that take place in the construction of the same. There are three classes of nouns, namely: proper, common and abstract. As examples of proper nouns we have: *sotulna* = rain chief, from the combination of *aisotao* and *nina*, *ninastûko* = chief mountain, from *nina* = chief and *mîstûkî* = a mountain, *namûqta* = Bow river, *i.e.*, *nama* = a bow or gun, and *nectûqta* = a river.

The following are examples of common nouns: *mamé* = a fish, *îinakîkwân* = a policeman, *sînakstîn* = a book or letter, *painokanats* = paper, *napyoyîs* = a house.

Many of the abstract nouns end in *sîn*. This, however, is variable: *pukasîn* = childhood, *ûkomimîsîn* = love, *kimatapsîn* = poverty, *aiqto-kosîn* = sickness, *îtamîtkûsîn* = happiness.

In treating of nouns there is seen to be for certain classes similar terminations which are general. There are many exceptions to this, even when relating to kindred subjects.

*Names of water end in kimî and komî.*

<i>Stokimî</i>	= cold water.
<i>Ksîstokomî</i>	= warm water.
<i>Motoymûqsîkimî</i>	= water everywhere, <i>i.e.</i> , the sea.
<i>Moyîkimî</i>	= a grassy lake.
<i>Omûksîkimî</i>	= big water, <i>i.e.</i> , a lake.
<i>Pûksîkimî</i>	= a swamp.
<i>Pisteikimî</i>	= salt water.
<i>Apatsîkimî</i>	= a broad river.
<i>Asîksîkimî</i>	= black water, <i>i.e.</i> , tea.
<i>Otoqkweksîkimî</i>	= yellow water.
<i>Mauqsîksîkimî</i>	= red water.
<i>Ksîksîkimî</i>	= white water.

*Names of buildings end in oyis.*

<i>Moyîs</i>	= a lodge.
<i>Nîtapoyîs</i>	= a native house, an Indian house.
<i>Napyoyîs</i>	= a house, a white man's house.
<i>Matakyoyîs</i>	= a potato house, <i>i.e.</i> , a root house.

Ponokaniŋtoyis	= a horse's house, <i>i.e.</i> , a stable.
Oqtokosapyoyis	= a sick house, <i>i.e.</i> , an hospital.
Oqkotoksapyoyis	= a stone house.
Makapyoyis	= a dirty house.
Akapyoyis	= many houses, <i>i.e.</i> , a village or town.
Natoapyoyis	= a holy or divine house, <i>i.e.</i> , a church.
Oinûqkûtoapyoyis	= a large holy house, <i>i.e.</i> , a cathedral or large church.

*Names of cloth end in aip̄stc̄i.*

Nalp̄stc̄i	= a blanket, cloth.	S̄ikaip̄stc̄i	= black cloth.
Maukaip̄stc̄i	= red cloth.	Ap̄aip̄stc̄i	= white cloth.
Otskaip̄stc̄i	= blue cloth.	Otoqkaip̄stc̄i	= yellow cloth.
Īstoqkaip̄stc̄i	= cotton.	Oinûqkaip̄stc̄i	= a large blanket.
Īnûkaip̄stc̄i	= a small blanket.		

*Names of earth end in koȳi.*

Tsaqkoȳi	= earth, land.
Aikim̄ikoȳi	= table land.
Sp̄ûts̄ikoȳi	= sand hills (sp̄ûts̄iko = sand).
P̄ik̄iskoȳi	= range of hills.
Kawûqkoȳi	= ravines.
Pawûqkoȳi	= ravines.
Moqsokoȳi	= a road (moqsoko = a footprint).
S̄ikakoȳi	= black soil.
Otoqkoȳi	= yellow soil.
Atsoaskoȳi	= woodland, forest, bush.
Pûqtokskoȳi	= pine timber land, pine forest.

FORMATION OF NOUNS.

*Diminutive Nouns* are formed by adding as a prefix ĩnûk, ĩnûks, ĩnûksa, ĩnûks̄i.

Akekwan	= a girl.	Ĩnûkakekwan	= a little girl.
Puka	= a child.	Ĩnûks̄ipuka	= a little child.
Matak̄i	= a potato.	Ĩnûkatak̄i	= a small potato.
Kûkûtos	= a star.	Ĩnûkûkûtos	= a small star.
Napekwan	= a white man.	Ĩnûksapekwan	= a small white man.
Saqkomap̄i	= a boy.	Ĩnûksaqaqkomap̄i	= a small boy.

*Personal Abstract Nouns* are formed from verbs by adding ap̄i or ûp̄i, the termination of matûp̄i, *i.e.*, a person, as :

Mateapsio	= he is foolish.	Matcapsetûpī	= a foolish one.
Kimatapsio	= he is poor.	Kimatapsetûpī	= a poor one.
Skunatapsio	= he is strong.	Skunatapsetûpī	= a strong one.
Mokûkīo	= he is wise, careful.	Mokûkiatûpī	= a wise person.

*Nouns are formed from Verbs by*

1. Adding *sin* to the root of the verb, as: aisīnakeo = he writes. Sīnak is the root of the verb, and by adding *sin* as a suffix we have: sīnaksīn = a writing, letter; spīksīnaksīn = a thick writing, *i.e.*, a book. Sīnaksīn is now used by the Indians for a letter, newspaper, book or document of any kind. Aisanakī = a clerk, amanuensis.

2. Adding *oksīn* as a suffix to the root of the verb as: akomimio = he loves. Omim is the root of the verb. Akomimoksīn = love.

3. Rejecting the verbal termination of the third person singular of the imperfect tense, and adding *sin* as a suffix.

Aītametûkeo = he is glad, happy. Etametûkeo = he was happy.

Etametûksīn = happiness.

4. Rejecting the verbal termination of the third singular present indicative and adding *in* as a suffix, as: aqseo = he is good; aqsīn = goodness.

5. Adding *ûqsīn* to the root of the verb, with the tense particle of the imperfect indicative mood, as: epoyco = he spoke; epouqsīn = speech.

Other examples of the formation of nouns from verbs are shown as follows:

Nītûsīkītsīkīqka	= I make shoes.
Atsekīn	= a shoe, moccasin.
Ūstsīkītsīkīqkae	= a shoemaker.
Nītaiāmûqkī	= I am sweeping.
Namûqkimatsīs	= a broom.
Nītaikûqksīstûkī	= I am sawing (across).
Īqtaikûqksīstûkiop	= a hand saw.
Nītainamauqkao	= I make a gun.
Namaua	= a gun, bow.
Ītainamauqkapi	= a gunsmith.
Apautûkeo	= he is working.
Apotûksīn	= work.

Aioqtokoqsio	= he is sick.
Aioqtokoqsīn	= sickness.
Aioqtokoqsapyoyīs	= an hospital; literally, a sick house.

## GENDER.

There are two genders, the animate and inanimate. As in the English language, the adjective undergoes no change when applied alternately to masculine and feminine, so there is none in the Blackfoot language. Thus, we say:

Matomaitūpī	= the first man.	Matomakio	= the first woman.
Aqsītūpī	= a good man.	Aqsīakio	= a good woman.

The pronoun ostoŷī has no distinction of sex—signifying he, she, it. There being no grammatical change resulting from the distinction of sex, two genders only are used—the animate, relating to things having life, and the inanimate, which refers to things without life. There are some inanimate things, however, that are treated as if they possessed life. Nearly all names of implements are classed as animates, as:

Kaksakīn	= an axe.	Kaksakīks	= axes.
Namayē and Namau	= a bow or gun.	Namayīks	= bows, guns.
Apsīnamau	= an arrow gun, <i>i.e.</i> , a bow.		
Īstoan	= a knife.	Īstoeks	= knives.
Notoan	= my knife.	Notoaks	= my knives.

Trees, plants, and various objects of vegetable nature have the termination for the animate gender, as:

Mīstcīs	= a tree.	Mīstceks	= trees.
Pūqtokī	= a pine tree.	Pūqtokīks	= pine trees.

Inanimate objects, which are related to the native religion of the Indians and are held as sacred, are classed as animates, as:

Natos	= the sun.	Natosīks	= suns, also moons and months
Omūqkatos	= the great sun.		
Kūkūtos	= a star.	Kūkūtosīks	= stars.
Kokumekesīm	= the moon.	Kokumekesīmīks	= moons.
Neetūqta	= a river.	Neetūqtaks	= rivers.

*Modes of denoting Sex.*

There are different modes of denoting sex.

1st.—By using different words.

Nina	= a man.	Ake	= a woman.
Saqkomapī	= a boy.	Akekwan	= a girl.
Nina	= my father.	Niksīsta	= my mother.
Noma	= my husband.	Nitoqkeman	= my wife.
Noqkoa	= my son.	Nitūna	= my daughter.

2nd.—By the use of *kwan* for the masculine and *ake* for the feminine terminations.

Napekwan	= a white man, <i>i.e.</i> , an English-speaking white man.
Napeake	= a white man's Indian wife.
Nitsapeake	= a white woman.
Kainakwan	= a Blood Indian man.
Kainake	= a Blood Indian woman.
Saiapekwan	= a Cree half-breed.
Saiapeake	= a Cree half-breed woman.

There are some exceptions to this rule, as: *akekwan* = a girl, which has a termination similar to the masculine.

3rd.—By adding *napīm* or *stamīk* for the masculine and *skīm* or *skento* for the feminine. This applies solely to animals.

Apotskina stamīk	= a bull.	Ponokamīta skīm	= a mare.
Apotskina skīm	= a cow.	Awatoyīstamīk	= a buck.
Ponokamīta stamīk	= a stallion.	Awatoyīskīm	= a doe.

## NUMBER.

Number is that change in form which denotes whether or not we are speaking of one object or more.

Nouns have two numbers, singular and plural.

The *Singular* number denotes one object, as:

Moyīs	= a lodge.	Neetūqta	= a river.
Īstoan	= a knife.	Imīta	= a dog.
Ūqkioqsatsīs	= a boat.		

The *Plural* number denotes more than one object of that for which the noun stands.

Moyists	= lodges.	Oqkotokists	= stones.
Sinaksists	= letters.	Tcistcikwists	= days.
Ponokamĩtaks	= horses.	Matũpĩks	= peoples.

There are several nouns which have no plural, as :

Napĩnoan	= sugar.	Ūnikĩs	= milk.
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The *Animate Nouns* form the plural by adding *ks*, *ĩks* or *sks* to the singular, as :

Ponoka	= deer.	Ponokaks	= deer.
Nokos	= my child.	Nokosĩks	= my children.
Mame	= a fish.	Mameks	= fishes.

*Inanimate Nouns* form the plural by adding *ts* or *sts* to the singular, as :

Napyoyĩs	= a house.	Napyoyĩsts	= houses.
Matakĩ	= a potato.	Matakĩsts	= potatoes.
Oqpekĩn	= his tooth.	Oqpekĩsts	= his teeth.

In the formation of the plural, before adding the terminations, sometimes a syllable is dropped, or there is a change or elision of one or two vowels or consonants, as :

Akio	= a woman.	Akeks	= women.
Napekwān	= a white man.	Napekwěks	= white men.
Matsĩkĩn	= a moccasin.	Matsĩkĩsts	= moccasins.

#### CASE.

Case is the form in which a noun is used in order to show its relation to some other word in the sentence.

There are three cases in the language, nominative, possessive and accusative. The possessive case is formed by adding as a prefix the abbreviated forms of the possessive pronoun, as :

- N, nĩ, nĩt and nĩts for the first person.  
 K, kĩ, kĩt and kĩts for the second person.  
 O, ot and ots for the third person.

Amo nĩtsapyoyĩs	= this (is) my house.
Oma kotas	= that (is) thy horse.
Saqkomapĩ otsĩnaksĩn	= the boy, his book,—the boy's book.

## ANIMATE NOUN IN THE POSSESSIVE CASE.

	BLACKFOOT.	CREE.	OJIBWAY.
<b>SINGULAR.</b>			
1. My father (or chief).	Nina.	Notawī.	Nos.
2. Thy father (or chief).	Kina.	Kotawī.	Kos.
3. His, her father (or chief).	Onī.	Otawīa.	Osan.
<b>PLURAL.</b>			
<i>Exclusive.</i>			
1. Our father.	Ninan.	Notawīnan.	Nosīnan.
<i>Inclusive.</i>			
1. Our father.	Kinon.	Kotawīnau.	Kosīnan.
2. Your father.	Kinawa.	Kotawīwau.	Kosīwa.
3. Their father.	Onīao.	Otawīwaua.	Osiwan.
<b>SINGULAR.</b>			
1. My fathers.	Ninaeks.	Notawīŭk.	Nosag.
2. Thy fathers.	Kinaeks.	Kotawīŭk.	Kosag.
3. His, her fathers.	Onīeks.	Otawīa.	Osan.
<b>PLURAL.</b>			
<i>Exclusive.</i>			
1. Our fathers.	Ninaneks.	Notawīnanŭk.	Nosīnanīg.
<i>Inclusive.</i>			
1. Our fathers.	Kinoneks.	Kotawīnanŭk.	Kosīnanīg.
2. Your fathers.	Kinawaeks.	Kotawīwanŭk.	Kosīwag.
3. Their fathers.	Onīaoeks.	Otawīwaua.	Osiwan.

*Notas = my horse.***SINGULAR.**

My horse = Notas.  
 Thy " = Kotas.  
 His " = Otas.

*Exclusive.*

Our horse = Notasīnan.

**PLURAL.**

My horses = Notasīks.  
 Thy " = Kotasīks.  
 His " = Otasīks.

*Exclusive.*

Our horses = Notasīnanīks.

*Inclusive.*

Our horse = Kotasīnon.

Your " = Kotasīwao.

Their " = Otasīawa.

*Inclusive.*

Our horses = Kotasīnonīks.

Your " = Kotasīwawīks.

Their " = Otasīawawīks.

There will be noticed in the above comparative table, the two first persons plural, which for greater clearness I have designated exclusive and inclusive.

The *Exclusive Plural* embraces the *first* and *second* persons only.

The *Inclusive Plural* embraces the *first* and *third* persons only.

This peculiar construction ensures a greater degree of definiteness than is to be found amongst many of the languages of civilized races. It applies to the pronouns and the verbs, and when once intelligently grasped will ever be easily remembered.

## INANIMATE NOUN IN THE POSSESSIVE CASE.

	BLACKFOOT.	CREE.	OJIBWAY.
SINGULAR.			
1. My book (or letter).	Nītsīnaksīn.	Nīmasīnahīgan.	Nīnmasīnaīgan.
2. Thy book.	Kītsīnaksīn.	Kīmasīnahīgan.	Kīmasīnaīgan.
3. His, her book.	Otsīnaksīn.	Omasīnahīgan.	Omasīnaīgan.
PLURAL.			
<i>Exclusive,</i>			
1. Our book.	Nītsīnaksīnan.	Nīmasīnahīganīnan.	Nīnmasīnaīganīnan.
<i>Inclusive,</i>			
1. Our book.	Kītsīnaksīnon.	Kīmasīnahīganīnau.	Kīmasīnaīganīnan.
2. Your book.	Kītsīnaksīnoawa.	Kīmasīnahīganīwau.	Kīmasīnaīganīwa.
3. Their book.	Otsīnaksīna.	Omasīnahīganīwau.	Omasīnaīganīwa.
SINGULAR.			
1. My books (or letters).	Nītsīnakīsts.	Nīmasīnahīgana.	Nīnmasīnaīganan.
2. Thy books.	Kītsīnakīsts.	Kīmasīnahīgana.	Kīmasīnaīganan.
3. His, her books.	Otsīnakīsts.	Omasīnahīgana.	Omasīnaīganan.
PLURAL.			
<i>Exclusive,</i>			
1. Our books.	Nītsīnaksīnanīsts.	Nīmasīnahīganīnana.	Nīmasīnaīganīnanīn.
<i>Inclusive,</i>			
Our books.	Kītsīnaksīnonīsts.	Kīmasīnahīganīnaua.	Kīmasīnaīganīnanīnī.
2. Your books.	Kītsīnaksīnoawasts.	Kīmasīnahīganīwaua.	Kīmasīnaīganīwan.
3. Their books.	Otsīnaksīnoawasts.	Omasīnahīganīwaua.	Omasīnaīganīwan.

*Napyoyis = a house.*

## SINGULAR.

## PLURAL.

My house = Nitsapyoyis.

My houses = Nitsapyoyists.

Thy " = Kitsapyoyis.

Thy " = Kitsapyoyists.

His " = Otsapyoyis.

His " = Otsapyoyists.

*Exclusive.**Exclusive.*

Our house = Nitsapyoyisinan.

Our houses = Nitsapyoyisinanists.

*Inclusive.**Inclusive.*

Our house = Kitsapyoyisinon.

Our houses = Kitsapyoyisinonists.

Your " = Kitsapyoyisoawa.

Your " = Kitsapyoyisowawists.

Their " = Otsapyoyisoawa.

Their " = Otsapyoyisoawawists.

## EXAMPLES OF THE POSSESSIVE CASE.

*Animate:—*

Niskûn = My younger brother.

Néesa = My elder brother.

Nîtûna = My daughter.

Amoksî moksîks = These are my children.

Akekwan oksîsta etûpoyeo onî = The girl's mother went to her father.

Aqsîtûpî otûna aioqtokoqseo = The good man's daughter is sick.

Nîtoqkeman nîtkomimao = I love my wife.

Otas îqkonoyeo = He found his horse.

Aisûkûkomeo okosîks = He is kind to his children.

Kûqkaiîqsoûqsîni kôtomîtam = You should feed your dog.

*Inanimate:—*

Nina okoa = My father's house.

Tcîma kîtseetan = Where is your saddle?

Amo nokoa = This is my home.

Amosts natsîkîsts = These are my boots.

Kîtcînakasem akûsîo = Your waggon is old.

Otsîstotoqsîsts awaitcînimac = She mends her clothes.

Names of parts of the body beginning with *M*, when put in the possessive case, drop the letter *M*: as,

Mîwapspî = The eye.

Nîwapspî = My eye.

Mokoantsî = The abdomen.

Nokoantsî = My abdomen.

Moqkînistîs = The elbow.

Noqkînistîs = My elbow.

Maâye = The mouth.

Naâye = My mouth.

Some nouns, when put in the possessive case, take the letter *M* as their terminal letter : as,

*Manîkûpi* = *A young man.*

SINGULAR.

*Nîtanîkûpîm* = My young man.

*Kîtanîkûpîm* = Thy " "

*Otanîkûpîm* = His " "

*Exclusive.*

*Nîtanîkûpîmînan* = Our young man.

*Inclusive.*

*Kîtanîkûpîmînon* = Our young man.

*Kîtanîkûpîmîwa* = Your " "

*Otanîkûpîmîwa* = Their " "

PLURAL.

*Nîtanîkûpîmîks* = My young men.

*Kîtanîkûpîmîks* = Thy " "

*Otanîkûpîmîks* = His " "

*Exclusive.*

*Nîtanîkûpîmînanîks* = Our young men.

*Kîtanîkûpîmînonîks* = Our " "

*Kîtanîkûpîmîwaîks* = Your " "

*Otanîkûpîmîwaîks* = Their " "

*The Double Possessive.*

The following words declined will show the method adopted in forming the double possessive :

SINGULAR.

*Noqkoa otometamae* = My son's dog.

*Koqkoa otometamae* = Thy " "

*Oqkoye otometamae* = His " "

*Exclusive.*

*Noqkunan otometamae* = Our son's dog.

*Inclusive.*

*Koqkunon otometamae* = Our son's dog.

*Koqkoawa otometamae* = Your " "

*Oqkoyewa otômetamae* = Their " "

Nísoqkoa	=	My daughter's son.
Kísoqkoa	=	Thy " "
Osoqkoye	=	His " "

*Exclusive.*

Nísoqkunan	=	Our daughter's son.
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*Inclusive.*

Kísoqkunon	=	Our daughter's son.
Kísoqkoawa	=	Your " "
Osoqkoyewa	=	Their " "

## PLURAL.

Nísoqkoaks	=	My daughter's sons.
Kísoqkoaks	=	Thy " "
Osoqkoyeaks	=	His " "

*Exclusive.*

Nísoqkunanaks	=	Our daughter's sons.
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*Inclusive.*

Kísoqkunonaks	=	Our daughter's sons.
Kísoqkoawaks	=	Your " "
Osoqkoyewaks	=	Their " "

*Another form of the same.*

## SINGULAR.

Nítúna oqkoye	=	My daughter's son.
Kítúna oqkoye	=	Thy " "
Otúna oqkoye	=	His " "

*Exclusive.*

Nítúninan oqkoye	=	Our daughter's son.
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*Inclusive.*

Kítúninon oqkoye	=	Our daughter's son.
Kítúnawa oqkoye	=	Your " "
Otúnawa oqkoye	=	Their " "

## PLURAL.

Nítúnà oqkoyeks	=	My daughter's sons.
Kítúna oqkoyeks	=	Thy " "
Otúna oqkoyeks	=	His " "

*Exclusive.*

NĪtūnĭnan oqkoyeks = Our daughter's sons.

*Inclusive.*

KĪtūnĭnon oqkoyeks = Our daughter's sons.

KĪtūnawa oqkoyeks = Your " "

Otūnawa oqkoyeks = Their " "

Decline Nĭsotūna = my daughter's daughter, Nĭtūna otūna = my daughter's daughter, and Nĭtūna okoa = my daughter's house, in the same manner as an exercise.

*The Expression "Own."*

For the expression "own," "my own," etc., there is a particular form used, consisting of the personal pronoun and Neneta, Keneta, Oneta, joined to the noun.

A letter is inserted in some words in accordance with the laws of euphony.

## ANIMATE NOUN.

Nĭstoā Nenetakotas = My own horse.

Kĭstoā Kenetakotas = Thy own horse.

Ostoye Onetakotas = His own horse.

*Exclusive.*

Nistunan Nenetakotasĭnan = Our own horse.

*Inclusive.*

Kistunon Kenetakotasĭnon = Our own horse.

Kistoawa Kenetakotasĭwao = Our own horse.

Ostoyewa Onetakotasĭawa = Their own horse.

Nĭstoā Nenetakotasĭks = My own horses.

Kĭstoā Kenetakotasĭks = Thy own horses.

Ostoye Onetakotasĭks = His own horses.

*Exclusive.*

Nistunan Nenetakotasĭnanĭks = Our own horses.

*Inclusive.*

Kistunon Kenetakotasĭncĭks = Our own horses.

Kistoawa Kenetakotasĭwawiks = Your own horses.

Ostoyewa Onetakotasĭawawiks = Their own horses.

## INANIMATE NOUN.

Nĭstoa Nenetaksĭstoŭn	= My own knife.
Kĭstoa Kenetaksĭstoŭn	= Thy own knife.
Ostoye Onetaksĭstoŭn	= His own knife.

*Exclusive.*

Nistunan Nenetaksĭstoŭnĭnan	= Our own knife.
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*Inclusive.*

Kistunon Kenetaksĭstoŭnĭnon	= Our own knife.
Kĭstoawa Kenetaksĭstoŭnĭwa	= Your own knife.
Ostoyewa Onetaksĭstoŭnĭawa	= Their own knife.
Nĭstoa Nenetaksĭstoaks	= My own knives.
Kĭstoa Kenetaksĭstoaks	= Thy own knives.
Ostoye Onetaksĭstoaks	= His own knives.

*Exclusive.*

Nistunan Nenetaksĭstonanaks	= Our own knives.
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*Inclusive.*

Kistonon Kenetaksĭstonanaks	= Our own knives.
Kĭstoawa Kenetaksĭstoawaks	= Your own knives.
Ostoyewa Onetaksĭstoawaks	= Their own knives.

*Examples.*

Nĭstoa Nenetakokoa	= My own home.
Nĭstoa Nenetaksĭnaksĭn	= My own letter.
Nĭstoa Nenetanamau	= My own bow, or gun.
Nĭstoa Notoŭnĭ	= My own knife.

This is a different form for the same inanimate noun as given above.

The accusative case shows the object of the verb.

The accusative animate is expressed by adding *wa* as a suffix to the singular.

Nĭtŭkomimao pukawa	= I love a child.
Akomimeo pukawa	= He loves a child.
Nĭtŭkomimao ponokamĭtawa	= I love a horse.

The accusative plural is formed by adding *a* to the plural as a suffix,  
as

Nĭtŭkomimaks pukaksa = I love children.

The accusative inanimate is expressed by adding *awa* as a suffix.

Nítúsatciqp sínaksínawa = I read a letter or book; literally, i look at a letter. There is no word in the language to express our English phrase "to read".

Nítapístotsiqp napyoyísa = I built a house.

#### DECLENSION OF NOUN.

##### *Animate Noun.*

###### SINGULAR.

Nom.—Imeta = A dog.

Poss.—Ometa = His dog.

Acc.—Imetawa = A dog.

###### PLURAL.

Nom.—Imetaks = Dogs.

Poss.—Ometaks = His dogs.

Acc.—Imetaksa = Dogs.

##### *Inanimate Noun.*

###### SINGULAR.

Nom.—Sínaksín = A letter.

Poss.—Otsínaksín = His letter.

Acc.—Sínaksínawa = A letter.

###### PLURAL.

Nom.—Sínaksísts = Letters.

Poss.—Otsínaksísts = His letters.

Acc.—Sínaksístsa = Letters.

##### *Terms of Relationship.*

Nina = My father.

Niksísts = My mother.

Nískún = My younger brother.

Ncesa = My elder brother.

Nísisa = My younger sister—Nítakim.

(*Female speaking*)

Ninísta = My elder sister.

Noqkoa = My son.

Nítúna and Nítúnis = My daughter.

Noma = My husband.

Nítoqkeman = My wife.

Nístúmo = My brother-in-law, *i.e.*, husband of my sister.

Nístúmoqko = My brother-in-law, *i.e.*, brother of my wife.

Nokos = My child.

Nísokos = My grandchild.

Nísoqkoa = My grandson.

Nísotúna = My grand-daughter.

(*male speaking*).

## THE PRONOUN.

A pronoun is a word used instead of a noun.

There are six classes of pronouns—personal, possessive, demonstrative, interrogative, relative, and indefinite.

## THE PERSONAL PRONOUN.

Personal pronouns are substitutes for the names of persons or things. They are called personal because they designate the person of the noun which they represent.

## INFLEXION OF THE PERSONAL PRONOUN.

	BLACKFOOT.	CREE.	OJIBWAY.
I	Nistoa	Niya	Nin
Thou	Kistoa and Sista	Kiya	Kin
He, she, it	Ostoye	Wiya	Win
<i>Exclusive.</i>			
We	Nistunan	Niyanan and Niyan	Ninawind
<i>Inclusive.</i>			
We	Kistunon	Kiyanan	Kinawind
You	Kistoawa	Kiyawa	Kinawa
They	Ostoyewa	Wiyawa	Winawa

There is a peculiarity in the pronoun especially observable in the Ojibway, Cree and Blackfoot languages, namely the *double first person plural*. This has already been explained under the *exclusive* first person plural and *inclusive* first person plural. As this is a highly important distinction, which ensures definiteness of expression, I shall repeat the explanation in another form, even at the expense of redundancy.

In the *exclusive* first person plural *Nistunan*, the persons speaking do not include the second persons, that is the persons addressed. This exclusive plural includes only the first and third persons, viz.:—He and I; or, They and I.

The *inclusive* first person plural or second first person plural *Kistunon*, includes the persons addressed, and not the third persons, viz.:—Thou and I; or, You and I. Great care must be exercised in grasping intelligently and thoroughly this distinction, as it is very extensively used in the language, especially in the verb.

The personal pronoun is used with verbs in a contracted form,

In the singular number, the first and second personal pronouns are used as prefixes, and are called article pronouns.

Níston being contracted to N and Ní, and Kíston to K and Kí.

In accordance with the laws of euphony, including harmony of sound, the letter *t* is oftentimes inserted between the pronominal prefix or article pronoun and the tense root of the verb, and sometimes before the root of the verb itself, as

Ní-t-awan-í = I say.

Ní-t-an-í = I said.

Kí-t-awan-í = Thou sayest.

Kí-t-an-í = Thou saidst.

awan-í = He says.

an-í = He said.

Sometimes the contracted form of the third personal pronoun is attached to verbs, with the aid of a euphonic letter, as O-t-se-kamus-í = He stole. Generally, however, the third person of the verb has not any article pronoun, the person being fully expressed by the inflexion of the verb.

### *The Expression Self.*

For the expressions *self* and *selves* the particle *kauk* is added as a suffix to the personal pronouns, as :

Nístoakauk = Myself.

Kístoakauk = Thyself.

Ostoyekauk = Himself, herself, itself.

(*Exclusive*) Nistunanakauk = Ourselves.

(*Inclusive*) Kistunonakauk = Ourselves.

Kístoawakauk = Yourselves.

Ostoyewakauk = Themselves.

### THE POSSESSIVE PRONOUN.

Possessive pronouns receive their distinctive name from the idea of possession being inherent in them.

There are two classes of possessive pronouns: separable and conjunctive.

The *separable* possessive pronouns are not joined to another word, but stand alone, although related to other words in the same sentence.

In the plural number they agree with the animate and inanimate nouns which they represent.

When representing a noun in the singular number, the animate and inanimate forms are alike.

	BLACKFOOT.	OJIBWAY.
Mine	Nitsīnan	Nin
Thine	Kitsīnan	Kin
His, hers, its	Otsīnan	Win
<i>Exclusive.</i>		
Ours	Nitsīnanan	Ninawind
<i>Inclusive.</i>		
Ours	Kitsīnanon	Kinawind
Yours	Kitsīnanawa	Kinawa
Theirs	Otsīnanawa	Winawa

*Animate Form.*

Mine	=	Nitsīnanīks.
Thine	=	Kitsīnanīks.
His, hers, its	=	Otsīnanīks.
<i>(Exclusive)</i> Ours	=	Nitsīnananīks.
<i>(Inclusive)</i> Ours	=	Kitsīnanonīks.
Yours	=	Kitsīnanawaks.
Theirs	=	Otsīnananīks.

*Inanimate Form.*

Mine	=	Nitsīnanīsts.
Thine	=	Kitsīnanīsts.
His, hers, its	=	Otsīnanīsts.
<i>(Exclusive)</i> Ours	=	Nitsīnananīsts.
<i>(Inclusive)</i> Ours	=	Kitsīnanonīsts.
Yours	=	Kitsīnanawasts.
Theirs	=	Otsīnananīsts.

For the expression *All these are mine*, the pronoun *Nitsīnanā* is used, which is declined in the same manner as Nitsīnan.

*Conjunctive* possessive pronouns are joined to nouns, and thus are formed nouns in the possessive case. These are the same as the contracted forms of the personal pronouns, which are used as article pronouns. They are thus expressed in conjunction with nouns and verbs:

1st person—N, Nī, Nīt, Nīts, and other vowels united with N.

2nd person—K, Kĭ, Kĭt, Kĭts, also Ko, Kû, etc.

3rd person—O, Ot, Ots.

Examples of the conjunctive possessive pronouns will be found in the treatment of the declension of the noun in the possessive case.

The following examples will also show the true meaning:

Puqsĭpĭpotot nĭsokasĭm = Bring my coat.

Puqsĭpĭpes notasa = Bring my horse.

Noqkokĭt nĭtsopatsĭs = Give me my chair.

### THE DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUN.

The demonstrative pronouns point out distinctively the persons or things spoken of. There are two forms, viz.: animate and inanimate.

	BLACKFOOT.	CREE.	OJIBWAY.
ANIMATE.			
This.	Amo and Amoġa.	Awa.	Ā.
That.	Oma.	Ūna.	Ā.
This or that.	Anauk.		
These.	Amoksĭ and Amoksĭm.	Okĭ.	Ogaw.
Those.	Omeksĭ and Omeksĭk.	Ūnĭkĭ.	Īgĭo.
These or those.	Anĭksauk.		
INANIMATE.			
This.	Amo and Amoġa.	Oma.	Aw.
That.	Omem.	Ūnima.	Īo.
This or that thing.	Anĭmauk.		
These.	Amosts and Amostsĭm.	Ohĭ.	Onaw.
Those.	Omests and Omestsĭm.	Ūnĭkĭ.	Īno.
These or those things.	Anĭtsauk.		

#### *Examples of the Animate Demonstrative.*

Amo notas = This (is) my horse.

Amoksĭ notasĭks = These (are) my horses.

Amoksĭ imetaks = These dogs.

Amakekwġn = This girl.

Omeksĭ ponokamĭtaks = Those horses.

Oma matŭpĭ skunatapĭo = That person is strong.

*Examples of the Inanimate Demonstrative.*

Amo nitsapyoyis	= This (is) my house.
Amanakas	= This wagon.
Amosts matakists	= These potatoes.
Omests sinaksists	= Those letters.

## THE INTERROGATIVE PRONOUN.

Interrogative pronouns are those which are used for asking questions.

	BLACKFOOT.	CREE.
ANIMATE.		
(Sing.) Who	Túkú	Awena
Which	Túa	Keko
Who is he	Túkats	
(Plu.) Who	Túkaks	Awenŋkí
Which	Tciaks	Tanŋnŋkí
INANIMATE.		
(Sing.) Which	Tcia and Teima	Keko and Taníma
What	Ūqsa	Kekwaí
What	Tcanístapí	
What is it	Tcanístapsŋo	
(Plu.) Which	Tciasts	Taniwíhí
What	Tcía	Kekwaya

*Examples.*

Tcakítawaní = What dost thou say? (present tense).

Tcakítaní = What dost thou say? What didst thou say?

This latter (imperfect tense) form is used more frequently by the Indians, instead of the present tense, but it has the force of the present.

Tcawanío = What does he say?

Tuka kītūqkoka = Who gave you?

Tcanístaoats = What did he say?

## THE RELATIVE PRONOUN.

Relative pronouns serve to connect the clause of a sentence with its antecedent, and to describe or modify it.

<i>Animate.</i>	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
Who.	Anûk.	Anûksîsk.
<i>Inanimate.</i>	SINGULAR.	PLURAL.
Which.	Anîk.	Anîstsîsk.
What.		

The particles *ogpî* and *yigpî* are used as suffixes to express the relative *what*, as :

Anioats nîtûqkoyiqpî = Did he say what he gave me?

Nîtûksîniq kîûqkotoqpî = I know what I gave you.

The compound relative pronoun *whoever* is expressed by the particle *îst*, as when alone

Îstaowa = Whoever.

Îstûtomae matsîsae = Whoever wants (this house) can have it.

Îstaowa ûqkîtotasîn = Whoever wants this horse can have him.

#### THE INDEFINITE PRONOUN.

Indefinite pronouns represent objects indefinitely. These pronouns have animate and inanimate forms, and are separable and conjunctive.

##### *Animate and Separable.*

Înûqkae = Somebody.

Akaiem = Many.

Noqketsîm = Another, a different one.

Istcîkî = Another, an added one, *plural* Îstcîkîks.

Înatoqsî = Few.

Matoqketse = Still another.

##### *Inanimate and Separable.*

Akauo = Many and much.

Aietcînikâ = All.

Noqketsîm = Another.

Istcîkî = Another, *plural* Istcîkîks.

Nîtapî = Another, the other.

Matoqketse = Still another.

There are conjunctive indefinite pronouns which are used only when joined to a word, as

Kûna = All, *e.g.*, Kûnaitûpîks = All the people.

Kûnoanîstcîsa = Tell everyone to come.

Noqketse = Another, *e.g.*, Noqketsetûpî = Another person.

### THE ADJECTIVE.

An adjective is a word used to qualify nouns.

There are four classes of adjectives, viz., separable, conjunctive, verbal and numeral.

There are also two forms of the adjective, animate and inanimate, agreeing with the nouns which they represent.

#### *Separable Adjectives.*

Aqse = Good.

Sokape = Perfect.

Matûqse = Bad (evil).

Makape = Dirty—rotten.

also applied to wrong-doing.

Omûqkîme = Big.

Înakîme = Little.

Spiké = Thick.

Stoyé = Cold.

Ksístoyé = Warm.

Soksîmé = Heavy.

Înakîme=little, becomes when joined to nouns the diminutive *înak*.

Separable adjectives are sometimes contracted in form and united with nouns, as

Aqsoskîtsîpupî = Good heart.

Omûqkîapyoyîs = A big house.

Omûqsînina = A great chief.

Makapoqsokoyî = The dirty road, the evil way.

Omûqkokaio = a big bear, from Omûqkîmi, big, contracted to Omûqko and Kaio = a bear.

#### *Conjunctive Adjectives.*

Conjunctive adjectives are joined to nouns and verbs. When severed from their proper connection, they lose their meaning and cannot be translated, as :

*Mane* = new or young. Manepuka = a young child, an infant. Manepuka aikamotao = the infant is better. Kôkinan manyoskitsipûpi = give us new hearts.

*Nato* = Holy. *Natoapslnaksin* = the holy book, *i.e.*, the sun-book, the Bible. *Natoapekwân* = the holy man, a missionary. *Natoyetcl-stcikwi* = the holy day, the Sabbath. This adjective is derived from *natos* = the sun, which is applied to spiritual things in the sense of being holy. Thus *Natoapikwan* is composed of *natos*, the sun, *api*, the contracted form in word formation of *matłpi*, a person, and *kwân*, the singular personal ending.

The separable adjectives are capable of being verbalized by the addition of the verbal suffix, and become adjective verbs, as :

Aqsc = Good.

Aqseo = It is good.

Matûqsc = Bad.

Matûqseo = It is bad, *i.e.*, it is not good, *ma* being the negative particle.

Makape = Bad.

Makapeo = It is bad.

He is wicked (moral badness).

Omûqkime = Big.

Omûqkimeo = It is big.

Inakime = Small.

Inakimco = It is little.

Sokape = Perfect.

Sokapeo = It is perfect.

Stoye = Cold.

Stoyeo = It is cold.

Ksistoye = Hot.

Ksistoyco = It is hot.

Spike = Thick.

Spikeo = It is thick.

Akaise = Old.

Akaiseo = It is old.

Matcaps = Foolish.

Matcapseo = He is foolish.

Kimataps = Poor.

Kimatapseo = He is poor.

Aioqtokos = Sick.

Aioqtokoseo = He is sick.

Skunataps = Strong.

Skunatapsio = He is strong.

Akotcaps = Rich.

Akotcapseo = He is rich.

*Comparison of Adjectives.*—Adjectives have three degrees of comparison, the positive, comparative and superlative. The positive degree expresses the adjective in its simple form, as

Stoye = Cold.

Aqsc = Good.

The comparative degree is formed by adverbial prefixes which are variously contracted. The particles attached to the adjectives are, E, Ek, Ekî, Eks, Ekû, Ekû, as :

Ekstoye = Very cold, colder.

Ekskaqsc = Very good, better.

Ekskunataps = Very strong, stronger.

The superlative degree is formed by prolonging the adverbial prefix of the comparative degree, as :

Ekstoye x	= Coldest, extremely cold.
Ekskaqsc x	= Best, the highest good.
Ekskunataps x	= Strongest, the greatest strength.

*Examples :*

Akaiem	= Many.
Ekûkaïem	= Very many.
Ekûkaïem x	= The most, the greatest number, a very great number.
Akauo	= Much.
Ekûkauo	= Very much.
Ekûkauo	= Very much.
Ekûkauo x	= The most, the greatest.

There is a negative form of the adjective expressed by prefixing the negative particles *Ma* and *Matsi*, as :

Epoyapetsi	= A great talker.
Matsipoyapetsi	= A silent person.
Aqse	= good.
Matûqse	= Bad.
Skunataps	= Strong.
Matskunataps	= Not strong, weak.

*Numeral Adjectives.*

CARDINALS.

Nitukskûm	= One.	Nao	= Six.
Natokûm	= Two.	Ikînceka	= Seven.
Niokskûm	= Three.	Nanîsoyîm	= Eight.
Nisoyîm	= Four.	Naniso	= "
Nise	= "	Pikso	= Nine.
Nîsetcî	= Five.	Kepo	= Ten.
Nîseto	= "	Kepî	= "
Kepî Nîtsekupût	= Eleven.	Natsîpe Nîtsîkupût	= Twenty-one.
" Natsekupût	= Twelve.	" Natsîkupût	= Twenty-two.
Kepî Niokupût	= Thirteen.	" Niokupût	= Twenty-three.

Kepi Nisokupût = Fourteen.	" Nisokupût = Twenty-four.
" Nisetcikupût = Fifteen.	" Nisetcikupût = Twenty-five
" Naokupût = Sixteen.	" Naokupût = Twenty-six.
" Ikĩtcekupût = Seventeen.	" Ikĩtcekupût = Twenty-seven.
" Nanisokupût = Eighteen.	" Nanisokupût = Twenty-eight.
" Piksokupût = Nineteen.	" Piksokupût = Twenty-nine.
Natsĩpe = Twenty.	

Nĩĩpe = Thirty.	Ikĩtcĩpe = Seventy.
Nĩsĩpe = Forty.	Nanĩsĩpe = Eighty.
Nĩsetcĩpe = Fifty.	Piksĩpe = Ninety.
Naoĩpe = Sixty.	Kepĩpe = One hundred.

Kepĩpe kĩ Nĩtsekupût = One hundred and one.
" " Nĩsetcĩkupût = One hundred and five.
" " Kepo = One hundred and ten.
" " Natsĩpe = One hundred and twenty.

Natoka kepĩpe = Two hundred.
Niokska " = Three hundred.
Nĩso " = Four hundred.
Nĩsĩto " = Five hundred.
Nao " = Six hundred.
Ikĩtceka " = Seven hundred.
Nanĩso " = Eight hundred.
Pikso " = Nine hundred.
Kepĩpepe = One thousand.
Naniso kepĩpepe = Eight thousand.
Kepi " = Ten thousand.
Nĩĩpe " = Thirty thousand.

In reckoning from eleven to twenty Kepĩ is generally unused, and the simple form is then :

Nĩtsekupût = Eleven.
Natsekupût = Twelve.
Niokupût = Thirteen, etc., etc.

Some of the numerals have two and three words for the same number, as:

Two	=	Natokûm	and	Natoka.
Three	=	Niokskûm	"	Niokska.
Four	=	Nisoyîm	"	Niso.
Five	=	Nîsetcî	"	Nîsîto.
Ten	=	Kcpo	"	Kcpî.

There is a form of broken speech also in use in reckoning, as:

Kepî mîstaput nîsetcî = Fifteen.

Kepî mîstaput nao = Sixteen.

Kepîpe naokupâtîpî mîstaput nîsetcî = One hundred and sixty-five.

Numerals are generally combined with nouns, though they are separable adjectives, as:

Nîtsepoqse	=	One dollar.	Naotûpe	=	Six persons.
Niokskotas	=	Three horses.	Îkîtcetûpe	=	Seven "
Nîtsetûpe	=	One person.	Nanisotûpe	=	Eight "
Natsetûpe	=	Two persons.	Pîqsotûpe	=	Nine "
Niokskatûpe	=	Three "	Kepîtûpe	=	Ten "
Nîsotûpe	=	Four "	Nîsoqkûtseo	=	Four feet.
Nîsetcîtûpe	=	Five "			

Nîtsînoaîaks nanîsoyîmîao ponokamîtaks = I saw eight horses. Kepî notasîks = I own ten horses. Literally—*ten, my horses*. This is the mode of expressing possession in use among the Indians.

Tcanîstcîsa kîtakotoqpa = When will you return? Nao tcîstcîkwîsts nûqsîkûmîtoto = Perhaps I shall return in six days.

The natives generally use the term *nights* where the white men say *days*, but the advent of the white man has introduced modes of speech when speaking to white men, which are not employed by the natives when in conversation among themselves.

Natokae tcîstcîkwee nîtapautakî kî nîsoyîmî sîpoksîks notoqkwenanî = I worked two days and earned four dollars.

Etcîpustoyemîo akapyoyis = He lived in town ten years.

Nîtukskûmats = Is there one? Kepîoats = Are there ten?

## MULTIPLICATIVE NUMERALS.

Nitukskaowa = Once.	Naoyaowa = Six times.
Natokaowa = Twice.	Īkītcekayaowa = Seven "
Niokskaowa = Three times.	Nanīsoyaowa = Eight "
Nīsoyaowa = Four "	Piksoyaowa = Nine "
Nīsītoyaowa = Five "	Kepoyaowa = Ten "

Kepī nītsīkupūtōyaowa = Eleven times.

" natsīkupūtōyaowa = Twelve "

" niokupūtōyaowa = Thirteen "

" nīsokupūtōyaowa = Fourteen "

All the other multiplicative numerals are formed on the same plan by adding *yaowa* to the contracted forms of the cardinal numbers.

Tcanīto kītsītīpoqsīstēī akapyoyis = How many times did you go to town? Nīsoyaowa nītsītīpoqsīstēī = I went four times.

*Ordinals.*

Petsīstoye = First.	Omoqsīsītūqp = Fifth
Omoqsīstokūqp = Second.	Omoqtaoqp = Sixth.
Omoqsoqskuqp = Third.	Omoqtokītcekūqp = Seventh.
Omoqsīsoqp = Fourth.	Omoqtanīsoqp = Eighth, etc.

*Numerical Combinations.*

Aq and Aqk when used in combination with a number mean *perhaps*, as:

Aqkītukskūm = Perhaps there is one.

Aqsīstokūm = Perhaps there are two.

Aqsokskūm = " " three.

Aqsīsoyim = " " four.

Aqsīsīto = " " five.

Aqkao = " " six.

Aqkīteekūm = " " seven.

The other combinations are formed on the same plan.

Name combined with numbers signifies *only*.

Nametukskūm = Only one.

Namao = Only six.

Namestokūm = " two.

Namoqkīteekūm = " seven.

Nameokskūm = " three.

Namanīsoyim = " eight.

Namesoyim = " four.

Namepiqso = " nine.

Namesīto = " five.

Namekepo = " ten.

There is another method of expressing this phrase, as :

Aistokûm = Only two.      Alokskûm = Only three, etc.

*Numerical Expressions of Time.*

Stoye	= Winter.	Nepoyĭ	= Last summer.
Īstoyĭsĭ	= Next winter.	Mokoye	= Autumn.
Akûstoye	= Last winter.	Motoye	= Spring.
Nepus	= Summer.		

Nĭtukska stoye	= One winter or one year.
Nĭtukska natosĭ	= One month.
Tcanĭstceo	= What time is it?
Kûtaumûspiksĭstcĭko	= Is it early in the day?
Tcanĭstconĭ kesomĭ	= How old is the moon?
Anokĭ tcĭstcĭko	= Half a day.
Sûpoksĭ tcĭstcĭko	= A whole day.
Īnûkanauksĭ tcĭstcĭko	= One fourth of a day.

Natos = the sun. This is often used in common for *the moon*, and for *a month*.

The natives have names for the months peculiar to themselves, as :

Pûke-pĭstce	= Choke-cherry month.
Saatos	= The month the ducks arrive.
Saaksĭstûpo	= The month the ducks depart.
Omûqkopotao	= The month of the big snow.

Anuqk	= Now.
Anuqk tcĭstcĭkwe	= To-day.
Kokose	= Night.
Kokoye	= Last night.
Anuqk kokose	= To-night.
Âtakose	= Afternoon.
Ototcĭkûqtstcĭkwe	= Noon.
Apĭnakwûs	= To-morrow.
Matunye	= Yesterday.
Matunyĭs	= To-morrow.
Mĭstapatunye	= Day before yesterday.
Mĭstapĭapĭnakwûs	= Day after to-morrow.

Apñako	= 'To-morrow at daybreak.
Tcístcǽkenǽts	= Daylight.
Askenǽts	= Darkness.
Kĩskĩnatunyc	= Sunrise.
Alsokǽtoyetcĩstcǽkwe	= Sunday is ended.

*Numerical Expressions of Money.*

Mĩkskĩm	= Metal, a general term for money.
ǽtǽqpumope	= The thing to trade with, money.
Nĩtsapoqse	= One dollar.
Natokũm sapoqse	= Two dollars.
Omuqkǽnauks	= The large half—fifty cents.
ǽnǽkǽnauks	= The small half—twenty-five cents.

Nioksa ǽnǽkǽnauks = The three small halves—seventy-five cents.  
 Omũqkǽnauks ke ǽnǽkǽnauks = The large half and the small half—  
 seventy-five cents. Aipũnasaine = A term for five and ten cents;  
 literally, the thing to cry over at night, and in the morning the weeping  
 is at an end. The natives explain this term by saying that the piece of  
 money is so small that when they look at it at night they begin to weep;  
 and in the morning, when they again look at it, they say it is foolishness  
 to weep over such a small thing, and they cease crying. Sũpoksĩ, the  
 term for one dollar, means a whole thing.

THE ADVERB.

There are several kinds of adverbs, which are classified according to  
 their signification.

*Adverbs of Time.*

Anuqk	= Now.
Kĩnuqka	= And now. Just now.
Anuqk tcístcǽkwe	= To-day.
Anuqk kokose	= To-night.
ǽtakose	= Afternoon.
Matomoqts	= Formerly. Some time ago.
Mĩsamoe	= Long ago.
Matomaisũmo	= Not long ago.
Mateĩsũmo	= " " "
ũniqka	= Then. At that time.

Sakooqts	= Afterwards. By and bye.
Matunyîs	= To-morrow.
Apînakwîs	= "
Matunye	= Yesterday.
Alsûmoye	= Long ago.
Kîpe	= Soon. In a short time.
Sake	= Still.
Oké	= Already.

Aksk, an adverbial participle = much, as *akskaisotao* = It will rain heavily. Ako = much, as *ak'awûqsîn* = plenty to eat.

*Adverbs of Place.*

Tcîma	= Where.	Astooqts	= Near.
Nats	= "	Astceo	= Near.
Tcia	= "	Pieqtce	= Far off.
Anom	= Here.	Pîo	= " "
Kinom	= Just here.	Spoqt	= Above.
Oma	= There.	Spoqtçîm	= "
Oma	= Yonder.	Stûqts	= Below, under.
x			
Omeim	= There.	Stûqtçîm	= " "
Matomoqts	= Before.	Saoqts	= Outside.
Aptûoqts	= Behind.	Saoqtçîm	= "
Pistoqts and Pistoqtçîm	= Inside.		
Satoqts and Satoqtçîm	= Across.		
Osoqts and Osoqtçîm	= Backwards.		
Sapoqts and Sapoqtçîm	= Sideways.		
Etomoqts	= Forward.		
Sakooqts and Sakooqtçîm	= After.		
Etcînastceo	= Everywhere.		
Matsîkiowats	= Nowhere.		
Apûmoqts and Apûmoqtçîm	= Across the river.		
Ametoqts and Ametoqtçîm	= Up the river, westward.		
Pinapoqts and Pinapoqtçîm	= Down the river, eastward.		
Amîskapooqts and Amîskapooqtçîm	= Southward.		
Apûtûsoqts	= The north. Northward.		
Kiomî	= There.		
Kîa	= Come on.		
Kûko	= Go on.		

*Adverbs of Interrogation.*

Tcanístce	=	When was it ?
Tcanístcís	=	When will it be ?
Tcanístcísúmo	=	How long ago ?
Tcanítcím	=	How many ?
Tcanítcaw	=	How much ?
Tcanístcípíó	=	How far is it ?
Tcanístcítápi	=	How many people ?
Tcína	=	Where.
Nats	=	"
Ūnats	=	"
Tcaa	=	"
Ūqsa	=	"

*Adverbs of Quantity.*

Akaiem	=	Many.	Īnatoqtseo	=	Less.
Akao	=	Much.	Ūnyae	=	Enough.
Matakaicm	=	Few.	Īstcīke	=	More.
Matakaao	=	"	Anaukoqts	=	Half.
Pístcīkwe	=	Little	Aitcīnika	=	All.
Īnakotsís	=	"			

*Adverbs of Manner.*

Sapŭnistce	=	Collectively.
Netoyé	=	Alike.
Makape	=	Badly, wrong.
Hŭné	=	In that manner.
Ekska	=	Very.
Noqketcīm	=	In another way, differently.
Kipé	=	Quickly.
Ksístoqts	=	Freely, without favour.
Ksístape	=	Aimless, fruitless.
Ekīne	=	Slowly, gently.

*Adverbs of Comparison.*

Akao and Īstcīke = More.

*Adverbs of Affirmation.*

Ū	= Yes.
Emanī	= That is true, truly.
Hūnē	= That is it.
Netseo	= That is so.

*Adverbs of Negation.*

Sa	= No.
Matcīstcī	= None at all.
Maqkakanīstce	= It is not so.

*Adverbs of Uncertainty.*

Tcaqta	= Perhaps.
Matūstcīniqp	= “

The prepositions are almost invariably joined with the noun or verb, and are in this sense particles or inseparable prepositions. Prepositional particles are generally incorporated with the verb, not as a prefix, but immediately after the pronominal particle and before the tense root. The following prepositional particles are found along with others in the language:

Sûp = Into. Mut = From, with. Itūqk = Upon, as:

Anakas *itūqk*-ītaupīo = He sits upon the wagon.

Akapyoyīs *nimūtoto* = I have come from town.

Nītūqsītaupīo = I am sitting upon.

Anim = In, as: Anim Akapyoyīs = In town. Itsoiqtce = In the water.

Potoq = To the place, as: Etokūtce = He sent him. *Etopotoqkutce* =

## THE CONJUNCTION.

Kī = And, but.

Sometimes the conjunction is joined to another word, as:

Kīniqka = And then.

Kioto = And he came, but he came.

Tūka = Because.

## INTERJECTION.

Hau ! Hau !	= A form of salutation.
Kika	= Wait !
Okī	= Now ! Come on !
Ekakima	= Courage !
Māpet	= Be quiet !
Ma	= Here ! Take this !
Moayok	= Here it is !
Aia	= Oh ! an expression of pain, used only by females.
Mīstaput	= Get away from here ! Go away !
Satcīt	= Look !

*(To be Continued.)*

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